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House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

Father Luke Palumbis, St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church, Stockton, CA, offered the following prayer:

Lord, have mercy. Heavenly Father, through Your love for all of Your creation and Your consummatory divine plan, You have established a natural, communal existence which symbiotically maintains fairness, serenity, shared support, concern for holistic well-being, and license from imposed control.

We thank You, Loving Master, that in accordance with this perfect model of Your creation, our Founding Fathers established a foundation for the formation of what they termed a more perfect Union through the establishment of justice, the ensuring of domestic tranquility, the providing for common defense, the promoting of general welfare, and the securing of the blessings of liberty.

We beseech You, All Holy One, to strengthen our civic leaders and our entire population of America with the virtues of humility, courage, and perseverance so that today we may actualize the poetic words of our Constitution not only as United States, but as united individual Americans, living in the union of God's creation. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GINGREY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

DEMOCRATS STILL NEED TO DECIDE WHERE THEY STAND ON WAR ON TERROR

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, last week the House voted to pass a resolution declaring that the United States will prevail in the global war on terror. The House spent 10 hours debating the measure, which came on the heels of two victories, the formation of the Iraqi Government and the death of Abu Musab al Zarqawi.

House Republicans made clear that we are determined to prevail in protecting our freedoms from the terrorists, but House Democrats couldn't even develop a unified message to let the American people know where they stand on the global war on terror. While House Republicans stood firmly in support behind our troops, House Democrats were all over the place. The San Diego Union Tribune reported on this confusion by saying, "Some Democrats stand with the White House, some change their views day to day, some incredibly don't believe Iraq has much to do with the war on terrorism. They seem to want Iraq to collapse in civil war rather than have any sort of resolution that can be seen as vindication of U.S. foreign policy."

Mr. Speaker, the American people have a clear choice: House Republicans are committed to winning this global war on terror, while House Democrats seem to want to give up and concede defeat.

BLACK ROBE DISEASE

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, judicial injustice has struck again. That is what has happened in Ohio.

After 6 years of waiting to face the man who raped her and tell her horror at his hands so he would be off the streets, a teen saw her chances for justice smashed with one swoop of a rogue judge's gavel. It was nothing the victim did; it wasn't even anything the defendant did. Judge Eileen Gallagher dismissed the girl's case, get this, because the prosecutor was late to court. Furious he hadn't been on time when she herself was 45 minutes late to her own court, Judge Gallagher called the prosecutor unprofessional, so she took it out on the victim.

Judge Gallagher suffers from "black robe disease," an incurable ailment, arrogant, hypocritical incompetence some judges get.

Mr. Speaker, when I was a judge in Texas for 22 years, and a lawyer was late to court, hold the lawyer in contempt, put him in jail. Don't let the defendant out of jail. Don't punish the victim.

The teen victim was raped by the defendant, then raped by her right to justice by Judge Gallagher. Hopefully the people of Ohio will hold this judge in contempt and dismiss her from the bench.

That's just the way it is.

A CALL FOR A NEW DIPLOMACY

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, if you had a friend who anytime he took the car out for a drive got in a wreck, if you really cared about your friend and others, you would take away the car

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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